

# THE 20 DIFFERENCES IN THE TWO DECALOGUE VERSIONS

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**Shavuoth**

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*A Happy and Joyous Shavuoth to the entire Rashiyomi family. The table below presents 20 differences between the Decalogue version in Ex20 and the Decalogue Version in Dt05. This Table should be used as the beginning of a conversation on the differences, the reasons for them, and the exegetical implications of the differences. Some of these differences such as **guard the Sabbath** vs. **Remember the Sabbath** are well known and understood. Others, are less well known. You may not understand all of them on the first reading. Try and see how many you can understand. Reading these with the original Hebrew may help. In summary, this table is a hint table that should stimulate interesting learning and discovery during Shavuoth. Dr Russell Jay Hendel; President.*

Difference Number	Ex VERSE	Ex Text (With Differences CAPPED)	Dt VERSE	Dt Text (With Differences CAPPED)	Brief Explanation	Principle Used
1	Ex20-03	Dont make an idol: Any image in heaven	Dt05-08	dont make an idol OR any image in heaven	Emphasis that images of angel visions are idolatrous cf Ex20-20--supports Rambam and Rashi	Lack of AND equates the items
2	Ex20-05	Visits the sins of PARENTS on children	Dt05-08	Vists the sins of PAREENTS on children	Children morally responsible whether their upbringing is FULL or DEFECTIVE	PUN on FULL/DEFECTIVE spelling
3	Ex20-05	Visits the sins of parents on children: on 3rd and 4th generations	Dt05-09	Visits the sins of parents on children AND on 3rd and 4th generations	Sins of parents visited only when grandchildren like children (Follow in parents footsteps)	Lack of AND equates the items
4	Ex20-07	God gives grace to thousands of generations to those who love me and observe MY commandments	Dt05-10	God gives grace to thousands of generations to those who love me and observe MY / HIS commandments	LOVE must be DIRECTLY with God (No intermediary); but OBSERVANCE may be thru the intermediary of the Rabbi	Alignment shows there are two cases
5	Ex20-08	Commemorate the Sabbath	Dt05-12	Guard the Sabbath	Famous Midrash: Two Requirements: Think of Sabbath during week (COMMEMORATE) and institute safeguards (Rabbinic enactments) to Guard Sabbath	Alignment shows 2 requirements
6	Ex20-08	blank	Dt05-12	...(Observe..) the Sabbath AS GOD COMMANDED YOU	The phrase AS GOD COMMANDED YOU links the decalogue to the rest of the Bible: The DECALOGUE is a GENERAL requirement whose DETAILS are spelled	AS GOD COMMANDED YOU implies cross reference and linkage

					out throughout Bible(Idea: Decalogue summarizes all commandments)	
7	Ex20-10	Observe Sabbath...you and your children; your slaves and animals	Dt05-14	Observe Sabbath...you and your children AND you slaves and animals	Some types of Sabbath observance UNIFORM (and and) while some types of observance is DISTINCT for each party. eg. NO ONE can do work for you (UNIFORM). However only CHILDREN must be trained in Sabbath observa	Lack of AND IN LIST shows 2 cases in list items
8	Ex20-10	Observe Sabbath...and your ANIMALS	Dt05-14	Observe Sabbath...and your OXEN AND DONKEYS and all your animals	Prohibitions of LABOR (eg ploughing) and TRANSPORTATION (ox and donkeys)	ALIGNMENT alerts us to various details and subcases
9	Ex20-10	Observe Sabbath ...and your ANIMALS	Dt05-14	Observe Sabbath...and ALL your animals	Sabbath prohibitions BOTH on animals that traditionally help man (Like oxen) and on animals that traditionally dont do work	ALL emphasizes no exceptions
10	Ex20-11	Observe Sabbath...BECAUSE	Dt05-15	Observe Sabbath...AND COMMEMORATE	The reason for Sabbath observance is PURELY Symbolic--an affirmation of Gods sovereignty (cf Ex31-13)	ALIGNMENT equates the two items
11	Ex20-11	Observe Sabbath..because God CREATED THE WORLD	Dt05-15	Observe the Sabbath..COMMEMORATE THE EXODUS	Two reasons for Sabbath observance: Symbolically affirms that God created the world and symbolically affirms the God freed us from work/Slavery	ALIGNMENT emphasizes TWO aspects to cases
12	Ex20-11	..therefore God BLESSED the Sabbath and SANCTIFIED it	Dt05-15	...therefore God COMMANDED you to OBSERVE the Sabbath	Sabbath is BURDEN and BLESSING: BURDEN: Observe Sabbath and treat Slaves nicely; BLESSING: God created world; therefore you can afford one day off	ALIGNMENT emphasizes TWO aspects to cases
13	Ex20-12	Honor your parents	Dt05-16	Honor your parents AS GOD COMMEDED YOU	The phrase AS GOD COMMANDED YOU links the decalogue to the rest of the Bible: The DECALOGUE is a GENERAL requirement whose DETAILS are spelled out throughout	AS GOD COMMANDED YOU implies cross reference and linkage

					Bible(Idea: Decalogue summarizes all commandments)	
14	Ex20-12	Honor parents in order you HAVE a long life	Dt05-16	Honor parents in order you HAVEE a long life	If your honor is FULL-HEARTED then your long life will be FULL; if your honor is HALF-HEARTED then your long life will be DEFECTIVE	
15	Ex20-12	Honor parents in order you have a long life	Dt05-16	Honor parents in order you have a long life AND IT BE WELL WITH YOU	Confirms view of Radak that LONG LIFE refers not to NUMBER OF DAYS but QUALITY of life	ALIGNMENT equates the two items
16	Ex20-13	Dont murder; ...Dont steal	Dt20-17	Dont murder AND ...Dont Steal	All laws in the verse are SIMILAR.....context of capital crimes (eg STEAL=KIDNAPPING) (Rabbi Ishmael)	AND creates a UNIFORM context
17	Ex20-13	Dont testify as a FALSE WITNESS	Dt20-17	Dont testify as an IRRELEVANT WITNESS	Dont testify falsely: YOU STOLE; Dont stand SILENTLY (IRRELEVANTLY) by someone who so claims (to increase witness weight and scare you) (Rambam)	ALIGNMENT emphasizes two cases
18	Ex20-14	Dont covet a HOUSE; Dont covet a WIFE	Dt20-18	Dont covet a WIFE; Dont desire a HOUSE	Prohibition of COVETING is independent of naturality of desire	Different ORDERS shows equality of items
19	Ex20-14	Dont COVET a house; Dont COVET a wife	Dt20-18	Dont COVET a wife; Dont DESIRE a house	There are two prohibitions: COVET=Pestering someone to sell you something and DESIRING = fantasizing that it really belongs to you (Rambam)	ALIGNMENT emphasizes two prohibitions
20	Ex20-14	Dont covet ...slaves AND animals	Dt20-18	Dont covet ...slaves; animals	Prohibition of COVET=PESTERING for sale applies to LARGE DEALS (slaves AND animals) as well as SMALL DEALS(Slaves, danimals)	Lack of AND IN LIST shows 2 cases in list items